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Message Text

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44
ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARAE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 IO-10 AID-05 /062 W
---------- 007552
O 271830Z NOV 74 ZFF-4
FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4974
INFO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L MEXICO 9966

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR MX CI
SUBJ: BREAK WITH CHILE

REF: MEXICO 9963, NOV 26, 1974

1. FOREIGN SECRETARY RABASA IS SCHEDULED TO MEET WITH PRESI-
DENT ECHEVERRIA THIS MORNING AND SUBSEQUENTLY TO HOLD A PRESS
CONFERENCE. THIS MAY SHED SOME LIGHT ON THE PRECIPITATE BREAK
IN RELATIONS WITH CHILE ANNOUNCED LAST EVENING AND REPORTED
REFTEL.

2. NOV 27 MEXICO CITY PRESS DOES LITTLE TO CLARIFY CAUSE
OF A BREAK DESPITE HEAVY COVERAGE. VISITING CHILEAN MINISTER
OF ECONOMY FERNANDO LENIZ AND MINISTER OF LABOR ALVARO PIZARRO
(HERE FOR ILO CONFERENCE) SEEM TO HAVE BEEN COMPLETELY TAKEN
BY SURPRISE AS WAS CHILEAN EMBASSY IN MEXICO CITY. ONE ACCOUNT
INDICATES THAT CHILEAN CHARGE WAS CALLED IN BY RABASA AT THREE
P.M. YESTERDAY AFTERNOON AND INFORMED OF GOM INTENT, BUT, AS
INDICATED REFTEL, EMBASSY CONTACT CHILEAN EMBASSY SEEMED TO
HAVE RECEIVED TEXT OF GOM COMUNIQUE ONLY IN LATE EVENING.

3. PRO-GOVERNMENT CLAQUE SPRANG TO SUPPORT OF GOM ACTION
OVERNIGHT. MORNING PRESS FILLED WITH STRONG EXPRESSIONS OF
SUPPORT BY CONGRESSMEN, PRI LEADERS AS WELL AS SPOKESMEN
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FOR SMALL "OPPOSITION" PARTIES PARM AND PPS. NUMBER OF MAJOR

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NEWSPAPERS CARRY FULL PAGE WORDY ADS SUPPORTING BREAK IN
RELATIONS AND SIGNED BY MAJOR PEASANT ORGANIZATION LEADERS.

4. SOME COMMENTATORS SPECULATE THAT RECENT CASE OF LAURA
ALLENDE'S ARREST IN SANTIAGO MAY HAVE PRECIPITATED BREAK,
BUT THIS IS SHEER SPECULATION.

5. IT APPEARS TO EMBASSY THAT BREAK IN RELATIONS ALMOST CER-
TAINLY STEMMED FROM SPECIFIC CAUSE BUT THIS NOT YET EVIDENT.

6. INSTANT SUPPORT FOR GOM ACTION BY INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANI-
ZATIONS MENTIONED ABOVE IS NOT UNUSUAL. NEVERTHELESS, EMBASSY
DOUBTS THAT EVIDENCE OF SUPPORT SUCH AS FULL-PAGE ADS MENTIONED
COULD BE WHIPPED UP OVERNIGHT. RATHER, INDICATIONS ARE THE
BREAK MAY HAVE BEEN IN THE WORKS AT LEAST FOR SEVERAL DAYS
AND INVOLVED EVIDENT COORDINATION BY GOM SEEKING TO ESTABLISH
WIDE SUPPORT EXISTS FOR THE MOVE. OF MAJOR PRESS ORGANS,
ONLY CONSERVATIVE "HERALDO" EDITORIALLY NOTED THAT GOM ACTION
TOOK MEXICAN PUBLIC COMPLETELY BY SURPRISE.
BRANDIN

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